(b) if so, the details thereof as on date and reasons causing delay therein; and

(c) by when these pending irrigation projects are proposed to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) to (c) In order to expedite clearance of the projects under appraisal with the central appraising agencies, entire appraisal set up in the Central Water Commission is geared up. The meetings of the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources on Irrigation, Flood Control & Multipurpose Projects are held quite frequently and comparatively larger number of projects are taken up for consideration. It is for the state government of Maharashtra to submit satisfactory responses to the observations of the central appraising agencies and required statutory clearances for the projects under appraisal so that the projects could be placed before the said Advisory Committee for approval.

There are 34 projects of Maharashtra under various stages of appraisal and 6 projects have been approved by the Advisory Committee subject to several observations. The state government of Maharashtra has to submit satisfactory responses to the observations of the central appraising agencies with regard to the pending projects proposals.

Abandoned projects

3227. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has abandoned some projects;

(b) if so, the complete details thereof during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, State-wise and project-wise;

(c) the exact reasons for such decision and the amount lost in each project; and

(d) the number of such projects in the agency areas of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) to (d) Irrigation is a state subject and planning, execution, funding and priority of execution of irrigation projects is within the purview of the concerned State Governments. No information regarding abandoning of any major/medium project ongoing under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme has been received from the state governments in recent times. However, sometimes project execution gets delayed for unusually long time due to compelling reasons such as Litigation, geological surprises, environmental & forest clearances, resettlement and rehabilitation problems and agitation against the project and such issues are required to be resolved by the state governments. As informed by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, no project has been abandoned in that state.

Projects under AIBP in West Bengal

3228. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state: